



WEDDIN SHIRE COUNCIL

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12 May 2023

Arek Gulbenkoglu
General Manager
Australian Energy Regulator
GPO Box 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2601
By email: AERresets2024-29@aer.gov.au

Dear Mr Gulbenkoglu

**RE: ESSENTIAL ENERGY DETERMINATION 2024-29 PUBLIC LIGHTING
POLICY**

I refer to the Central NSW Joint Organisation (CNSWJO) submission dated 12 May 2023 (on behalf of the Southern Lights Group) to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) on the Essential Energy Determination 2024-2029 regarding the public lighting policy.

Weddin Shire Council would like to reiterate and acknowledge the content provided in this submission.

In addition, Council cannot emphasise enough the missed opportunity for a smart cell roll out by Essential Energy which would greatly reduce the cost of operation and maintenance. One look at the ACT Government's approach to their streetlight energy performance contract, which included luminaire upgrades, column replacements, streetlight controller upgrades and smart cell roll out, will highlight the energy efficiencies gained, the smart city network created and the reduction in operation and maintenance costs. The escalation in costs and high overheads for the proposed minimal level of service is simply disappointing for our rural and regional centres.

Thank you for your consideration, should you require clarification or seek further information please phone my office on [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Noreen Vu
GENERAL MANAGER